

## Prescribed Burning

### Virginia Conservation Practice Job Sheet

338



#### Definition

Controlled fire applied to a predetermined area.

#### Criteria

Comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including the state's voluntary Best Management Practices (BMP's), air pollution and fire laws.

NRCS responsibilities are to make a preliminary need/suitability determination and communicate important conservation plan and case file information to the certified burner preparing the plan.

A Virginia Certified Prescribed Burn Manager must prepare a burn plan that includes the following items:

- Resource management objectives.
- Location and description of the burn area.
- Smoke management.
- Location and specifications for firebreak establishment.
- Identify the location of utility lines.
- Pre-burn vegetation cover.
- Required weather conditions for prescribed burn.

- Notification check list.
- Equipment checklist/personnel assignments and needs/safety requirements.
- Firing sequence.
- Ignition method.
- Approval signatures.
- Post burn evaluation criteria.

Follow the burn plan parameters and use an appropriate level of personnel and equipment support.

The certified burn manager should be in contact with the Virginia Department of Forestry for information on weather and other conditions, and follow the burn plan parameters prior to beginning the burning operation.

Notify nearby residents and adjacent landowners of the intent to burn.

Notify the local fire department of burn intentions to reduce public concern, false response and to remain on alert if needed.

Maintain site productivity and minimize effects on soil erosion and soil properties (structure, soil moisture) by burning when soil and site conditions are appropriate. Monitor weather parameters and other data that affect fire behavior and smoke management during the burn.

Attend the fire at all times.

**NOTE: This summary does not address all requirements and considerations in the VA Prescribed Burning Conservation Practice Standard (VA-338). Consult the Conservation Practice Standard for further details.**

Producer \_\_\_\_\_ Farm # \_\_\_\_\_ Tract # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Field Office \_\_\_\_\_ Contract # \_\_\_\_\_

**Producer’s Purpose**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Control undesirable vegetation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Control plant diseases<br><input type="checkbox"/> Improve wildlife habitat<br><input type="checkbox"/> Remove slash and debris<br><input type="checkbox"/> Restore and maintain ecological sites | <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare sites for harvesting, planting, seeding<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reduce wildlife hazards<br><input type="checkbox"/> Improve plant production quantity<br><input type="checkbox"/> Enhance seed and seedling production |
|---|---|

**Practice Specifications**

**A copy of the Burn plan and map prepared by a Virginia Certified Prescribed Burn Manager is attached to this job sheet.**

Field	Acreage	Timing of Burn

**Operation and Maintenance**

- The kinds and expected variability of site factors (e.g., fuel condition and moisture content, weather conditions, human and vehicular traffic that may be impeded by heat or smoke, liability, and safety and health precautions) shall be monitored during the operation of this practice. Sufficient fire suppression equipment and personnel shall be available commensurate with the expected behavior of these factors during the time of burning to prevent a wildfire or other safety, health or liability incident.
- Monitor the burned site and adjacent areas until ash, debris and other consumed material are completely extinguished.

**Planner Certification**

The Prescribed Burning practice planned in this job sheet fulfills minimum requirements of Virginia NRCS Conservation Practice Standard 386.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature Title Date

**Certification of Practice Completion**

The Prescribed Burning practice planned in this job has been completed and maintained according to Virginia NRCS specifications (indicate in Practice Specifications any changes to the planned activities and acreage).

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature Title Date

